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VIA ELECTRONIC FILING AND OVERNIGHT DELIVERY

Mary L. Cottrell, Secretary
Department of Telecommunications and Energy
One South Station
Boston, MA 02110

Re: Bay State Gas Company, D.T.E. 06-36

Dear Ms. Cottrell:

Enclosed for filing, on behalf of Bay State Gas Company ("Bay State"), are Bay State's response to the following Information Request:

HESS 1-21

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Very truly yours,

Patricia M. French

cc: Julie Howley Westwater, Esq., Hearing Officer
Jamie M. Tosches, Esq., Office of the Attorney General
Service List (Electronic Service per the Ground Rules)

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
DEPARTMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND ENERGY

RESPONSE OF BAY STATE GAS COMPANY TO THE
FIRST SET OF INFORMATION REQUESTS FROM HESS CORPORATION
D.T.E. 06-36

Date: July 27, 2006

Responsible: Joseph A. Ferro, Manager Regulatory Policy

Hess 1-21: Please describe the emergency plans in place for Bay State and for New England in the event of a force majeure event or another supply emergency?

RESPONSE: The purpose of Bay State's emergency plan ("plan") is to provide timely communications, accurate information and close coordination of Company action with customers, other LDCs, private businesses and local, state and federal government agencies, in the event of a major incident.

The Division of Energy Resources ("DOER") is authorized by Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 25A, Section 8 to develop "energy shortage contingency plans" to protect the Commonwealth in the event of an energy shortage within the Commonwealth. Threats against energy infrastructures have put all industry stakeholders and public policy-makers on heightened awareness that it is critical to strive for collaborative communication. For these reasons, Bay State files its emergency plans with the DOER. For its part, the DOER treats this information as confidential under the applicable law and preserves such information for the sole use of the Commonwealth, its agencies and offices, to ensure the public's safety. DOER oversees the adequacy of utility-planned emergency response.

Bay State's plan designates what constitutes an "emergency" for which the plan will take effect. The plan is not premised only on emergencies caused by force majeure events or catastrophic supply shortages.

Bay State's plan establishes a priority of contact and a contingency plan for a general industry energy shortage, as well as the utility response to the outage of a Major Customer. The plan addresses mutual aid, provides for load relief criteria, establishes an emergency headquarters and ensures that a utility official is designated as the contact, or liaison with governmental officials in each affected local community.

Bay State's emergency plan also provides for plan training, review sequence and updating, disaster recovery, leak investigation action, and expected response to civil disturbance and disruption. It provides for multi-utility mutual aid sequencing and provides mutual aid data available

through the Northeast Gas Association ("NEGA"). The plan also includes a description of the NEGA LNG Trucking Emergency Response Plan. Because of the difficulties and hazardous nature of bringing down a natural gas system and then bringing it back up again, the plan has details to address emergency response for gas acquisition and system control requirements. Finally, contact information for Bay State's critical production facilities, critical customer accounts, key customer accounts is identified.